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Town Hires New Budget and Special Projects Manager

Michael Gammon has joined the Town of Garner as its new budget and special projects manager after a nine-month stint with the Town as a management fellow.

Gammon is a native of Huntersville in Mecklenburg County and graduated from UNC-Charlotte with a master's of public administration degree and a bachelor's degree in political science and criminal justice. He has been working for the Town since last June as a management fellow, focusing on budget and special projects. Gammon filled in for Jamie Ludovic, who resigned her position as budget and special projects manager on Feb. 27, while she was out on maternity leave last year and performed many of the duties that he will now assume permanently.

"Michael is very well-qualified for this role, and we are excited for him to join our team," Town Manager Hardin Watkins said. "We are in the middle of our budget preparation process, and he will be able to jump in and contribute immediately. Due to his previous work with the Town, he is known by all of our department leaders and elected officials—that's very advantageous."

The budget and special projects manager prepares the Town's annual budget and analyzes it throughout the year, tracking primarily expenditures (the Finance Department tracks revenues). The person in this position also conducts operational analyses to look for efficiencies in Town departments and leads the Town's internal audit function, ensuring good stewardship of resources and compliance with the Town's policies and procedures. In addition, the person in this role handles special projects assigned by the town manager or Town Council.

Gammon has approximately four years of experience in the private sector working for QBE Financial Partners Services in RTP as a team leader of its property tax services group for escrow and tax operations. Prior to that, he worked for the City of Concord in its Budget Department as an intern.

"Michael has outstanding qualifications, and we know we are bringing someone on board who is a really

great teammate," Finance Director Emily Lucas said. "I am happy that he has accepted our offer to become a permanent member of our team."

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